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BOOK REVIEWS

Bench Work in Wood. By W. F. M. Goss. Boston: Ginn & Co., 1905. Pp. xiv+200. \$0.70.

This book is an old friend in a new dress. Part I describes many of the tools used by woodworkers, and explains the common methods employed in caring for and sharpening these tools. Unfortunately, however, many of the tools described are obsolete; and others are of such clumsy make and poor material that they should not find place in a work of this kind. The space would be better employed in describing the best tools rather than those that are clumsy and out of date.

Part II consists of a series of well-chosen exercises calculated to familiarize the student with the tools and to give him some facility in their use. It is an open question how far mere exercise work should be carried. Many of the principles illustrated could just as well be applied to the making of articles for actual use, and thus lead to the solution of problems that arise in the experience of the pupil. Such work is of greater value than that which is cut and dried, as in the case of an exercise. Drawboring is described with some minuteness, and then the author says it is bad practice. Why waste time telling how a piece of work should not be done?

Part III treats of wood construction as applied to carpentry and joinery. Part IV treats of timber and its preparation for use. Many kinds of wood are described, and their geographical distribution in the United States is represented by charts.

The book is profusely illustrated, but many of the cuts would be better if the excessive shading were omitted. Too many shade lines tend only to confuse those not familiar with mechanical drawings, and are superfluous. The book is well adapted to beginners in the art of wood-working, and has many valuable suggestions for those who are farther advanced in the subject.

WILBERT S. DREW.

Manual Training and Trade Schools, Pontiac, Ill.

Physics. By Charles Riborg Mann and George Ransom Twiss. Chicago: Scott, Foresman & Co., 1905. Pp. x+453. \$1.25.

This book is noteworthy among recent texts on elementary physics because it is the first successful attempt to break away from traditional lines by bringing about an intimate correlation between the subject-matter of physics and the activities of daily life. The newness of the treatment lies in its constant appeal to the experience of the pupil. Every principle studied is taken up in connection with a definite problem arising from some familiar occurrence. The interest of the high-school boy in steam engines, dynamos, cameras, automobiles, etc., is both stimulated and utilized. The spirit of the book is well typified by its numerous illustrations, which are mostly photographs of real objects, as distinguished from mere laboratory devices. Consistent adherence to the idea of a close union of subject-matter with the pupil's experience has borne fruit in the rejection of certain time-honored topics, as well as in the including